

PREFACE.

TO THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Gentlemen:—We have the honor to submit the Eighteenth Volume of the Maryland Archives, containing the Records of Maryland Troops in the Continental Service during the War of the American Revolution, 1775–1783.

This publication of the muster rolls and other records of service of Maryland men in the war of the American Revolution was undertaken in March, 1897. The bravery and excellent reputation of the troops of the Maryland Line were such that their names deserved to be rescued from oblivion, while the services rendered by men of this State in the Flying Camp, German Regiment and other commands were also noteworthy.

A large number of Revolutionary papers were found in the possession of the Johns Hopkins University, to which institution they had been presented by the late Col. J. Thomas Scharf, formerly Commissioner of the Land Office. The custody of these papers was given the Society with authorization to copy and print such of them as should seem desirable. All lists in this work, without indication of source, are to be understood as a part of this collection. In December, 1896, the Society had purchased at auction in New York City a number of muster rolls, some of which had at one time been in Col. Scharf's possession. These are indicated by the letter M. In the Land Office of the State at Annapolis are a number of valuable Revolutionary papers. Some of these contained information duplicating that elsewhere obtained; but one of them, a Record of the soldiers in the Maryland Line from 1776 to 1780, is the most important single list in this work. It comprises over 6,000 names and is contained in three manuscript volumes. A list of those who served in the two battalions of select militia called out in 1781, was also obtained from the Land Office. We are indebted to the courtesy of the Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution for permission to print the copy of the pay-roll of the Maryland Line 1781–83, which they obtained from the Land Office.

There are two plans for the preparation of a work of this kind: one, adopted by the State of Connecticut, to print the lists as found and give a general index of names, the other, adopted by the State of